

BASF Aktiengesellschaft

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B02/0300US IB/WH/cd**Abstract**

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The invention relates to a method of fabricating a membrane-electrode assembly (MEA), particularly for PEM fuel cells, wherein the MEA comprises a polymer-electrolyte membrane (PEM) with reaction layers applied to both sides and possibly with gas distribution layers, and at least one of the reaction layers includes at least one catalytic component and an electron conductor, the method comprising the following procedural steps:

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A) The introduction of ions of the at least one catalytic component into the polymer-electrolyte membrane and/or into an ionomer introduced into the reaction layers,

B) the application of the electron conductor to both sides of the polymer-electrolyte membrane,

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C) the electrochemical deposition of the ions of the catalytic component from the polymer-electrolyte membrane and/or from the ionomer, introduced into the reaction layers, on the electron conductor onto at least one side of the polymer-electrolyte membrane.